

35 U.S.C. § 112

Claims 2-4 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph, as containing subject matter which was not described in the specification in such a way as to reasonably convey to one skilled in the art the that inventors, as the time the application was filed, has possession of the claimed invention. Claim 2 has been amended herein. Therefore, Applicants respectfully submit that Claim 2 satisfies 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph. Claims 3 and 4 are dependent on allowable base Claim 2. Applicants respectfully submit that Claims 3 and 4 satisfy 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph, as these claims are dependent on an allowable base claim.

CLAIM REJECTIONS - 35 U.S.C. § 103(a)

Claims 1-7

Claims 1-7 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over United States Patent 5,884,262 by Wise et al., hereinafter the "Wise" reference, in view of United States Patent 5,875,422 by Eslambolchi, hereinafter the "Eslambolchi" reference. Applicants have reviewed the cited references and respectfully submit that the embodiments of present invention as recited in Claims 1-7 are not anticipated nor rendered obvious by Wise in view of Eslambolchi.

Applicants respectfully direct the Examiner to independent Claim 1 that recites that an embodiment of the present invention is directed to (emphasis added):

A method of using a telephone identifying information to present information over a telephone interface using a first computer, the method comprising:

selecting at least one voice character setting based on the telephone identifying information; and

presenting information according to the at least one voice character setting over the telephone interface using the first computer.

Claims 2-7 that depend from independent Claim 1 provide further limitations descriptive of the features of the present invention.

The cited combination fails to teach or suggest Claim 1. For instance, Wise does not teach or suggest a method for using a telephone identifying information to select a voice characteristic for presenting information over a telephone interface. Eslambolchi fails to remedy this default. On the contrary, Wise teaches a computer network audio access and conversion system. In particular, Applicants understand Wise to teach a system for presenting information in an audio format using different voices based on the contents of the information.

As described in the claimed embodiment of the present invention, a method is provided for presenting information over a telephone interface

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wherein a voice character setting for presenting the information is based on the telephone identifying information. Specifically, the claimed embodiment recites the limitation of selecting at least one voice character setting based on the telephone identifying information. As described in the specification, telephone identifying information is used to automatically identify the source of a telephone call (see page 14, lines 2-13 of the present application).

In contrast, Wise teaches a system for presenting information over a telephone, wherein the information may be presented in a different voice based on the content of the information. Specifically, “depending on the different types of structures used in the file, information is translated from an audio/visual format to an audio format and played to the user via the telephone interface” (col. 2, lines 12-15). Wise describes a number of examples of changing the voice of presentation based on the formatting or characteristics of the file accessed (col. 2, lines 18-26). In particular, Wise describes a system where the voice used to present the information depends on the format of the information being read.

Applicants respectfully submit that Wise does not teach or suggest a method of using telephone identifying information to present information over a telephone interface as claimed. In particular, the system as taught in Wise does not change the voice character of presentation based on the telephone identifying information. On the contrary, Wise teaches a system where the

content of the information presented determines the voice character used in presenting the information.

Moreover, the combination of Wise and Eslambolchi fails to teach or suggest this claim limitation because Eslambolchi does not overcome the shortcomings of Wise. Eslambolchi, alone or in combination with Wise, does not show or suggest a method of using telephone identifying information to select a voice character to present information over a telephone interface. As described above, Wise teaches a system for presenting information over a telephone, wherein the information may be presented in a different voice based on the content of the information.

Applicants understand Eslambolchi to teach a telecommunications network for translating information. In particular, Eslambolchi teaches a method for translating information from one language to an explicitly selected second language (col. 3, lines 15-41). The telecommunications network of Eslambolchi prompts a user with a selection of languages, requiring a user to explicitly select a language.

In contrast, the present invention as claimed presents information in a voice character based on telephone identifying information. Specifically, embodiments of the present invention present information automatically in a particular voice character based on the telephone identifying information. The

present invention does not require a prompt and a user response selecting a voice character.

In view of the claim limitation of selecting at least one voice character setting based on the telephone identifying information not being shown or suggested in Eslambolchi, in combination with the above arguments, Applicants respectfully submit that independent Claim 1 overcomes the cited references and is therefore allowable over the combination of Wise and Eslambolchi.

Applicants respectfully assert that nowhere does the combination of Wise and Eslambolchi teach, disclose or suggest the present invention as recited in independent Claim 1, and that Claim 1 is thus in condition for allowance. Therefore, Applicants respectfully submit the combination of Wise and Eslambolchi also does not teach or suggest the additional claimed features of the present invention as recited in Claims 2-7 that are dependent on allowable base Claim 1. Applicants respectfully submit that Claims 2-7 overcome the rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as these claims are dependent on allowable base claims.

Claims 8-13

Claims 8-13 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Wise in view of Eslambolchi, and further in view of United

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States Patent 6,161,128 by Smyk, hereinafter the "Smyk" reference. Applicants have reviewed the cited references and respectfully submit that the present invention as recited in Claims 8-13 is not anticipated nor rendered obvious by Wise in view of Eslambolchi, and further in view of Smyk.

Applicants respectfully direct the Examiner to independent Claim 8 that recites that an embodiment of the present invention is directed to (emphasis added):

A computer system supporting user personalized profiles using a telephone identifying information, a telephone interface, and an Internet interface, the computer system comprising:

a database including personalization profiles for a plurality of users, each profile defining preferences for a corresponding user, each personalization profile for personalizing a corresponding user's interactions with the computer system, each personalization profile indicating a voice character;

a server supporting the Internet interface, the server allowing access to, and modification of, the personalization profiles by the corresponding users;

a telephone interface subsystem supporting the telephone interface to receive the telephone identifying information, the telephone interface including a first program code to match the telephone identifying information with a corresponding personalization profile, the telephone interface also including a second program code to provide personalized content over the telephone interface to a user in the corresponding voice character indicated in personalization profile.

Claim 13 recites similar limitations. Claims 9-12 that depend from independent Claim 8 provide further recitations of the features of the present invention.

The cited combination to teach or suggest Claims 8 or 13. For instance, Wise does not teach or suggest a computer system for providing personalized content over a telephone interface to a user in the corresponding voice character indicated in a personalization profile. On the contrary, Wise teaches a computer network audio access and conversion system. In particular, Applicants understand Wise to teach a system for presenting information in an audio format using different voices based on the contents of the information.

As described in the claimed embodiments of the present invention, a computer system supporting user personalized profiles is provided that is configured to provide personalized content over a telephone interface to a user in a voice character indicated in a personalization profile. Specifically, the claimed embodiments recite the limitation of the telephone interface also including a second program code to provide personalized content over the telephone interface to a user in the corresponding voice character indicated in personalization profile. As claimed, telephone identifying information is used to match a personalization profile, wherein the personalization profile indicates a voice character.

In contrast, Wise teaches a system for presenting information over a telephone, wherein the information may be presented in a different voice based on the content of the information. Specifically, "depending on the different types

of structures used in the file, information is translated from an audio/visual format to an audio format and played to the user via the telephone interface" (col. 2, lines 12-15). Wise describes a number of examples of changing the voice of presentation based on the formatting or characteristics of the file accessed (col. 2, lines 18-26). In particular, Wise describes a system where the voice used to present the information depends on the format of the information being read.

Applicants respectfully submit that Wise does not teach or suggest a computer system supporting user personalized profiles is provided that is configured to provide personalized content over a telephone interface to a user in a voice character indicated in a personalization profile as claimed. In particular, the system as taught in Wise does not change the voice character of presentation based on a personalization profile. On the contrary, Wise teaches a system where the content of the information presented determines the voice character used in presenting the information.

Moreover, the combination of Wise and Eslambolchi fails to teach or suggest this claim limitation because Eslambolchi does not overcome the shortcomings of Wise. Eslambolchi, alone or in combination with Wise, does not show or suggest a computer system supporting user personalized profiles is provided that is configured to provide personalized content over a telephone interface to a user in a voice character indicated in a personalization profile. As

described above, Wise teaches a system for presenting information over a telephone, wherein the information may be presented in a different voice based on the content of the information.

Applicants understand Eslambolchi to teach a telecommunications network for translating information. In particular, Eslambolchi teaches a method for translating information from one language to an explicitly selected second language (col. 3, lines 15-41). The telecommunications network of Eslambolchi prompts a user with a selection of languages, requiring a user to explicitly select a language.

In contrast, the present invention as claimed presents information in a voice character indicated in a personalization profile. Specifically, embodiments of the present invention present information automatically in a particular voice character indicated in a personalization profile, wherein the personalization profile is linked to telephone identifying information. The present invention does not require a prompt and a user response selecting a voice character.

Furthermore, the combination of Wise, Eslambolchi, and Smyk fails to teach or suggest this claim limitation because Smyk does not overcome the shortcomings the combination of Wise and Eslambolchi. Smyk, alone or in combination with Wise and Eslambolchi, does not show or suggest a

computer system supporting user personalized profiles is provided that is configured to provide personalized content over a telephone interface to a user in a voice character indicated in a personalization profile.

Applicants understand Smyk to teach an Internet based service control system. Applicants respectfully assert that Smyk does not show or suggest a computer system supporting user personalized profiles is provided that is configured to provide personalized content over a telephone interface to a user in a voice character indicated in a personalization profile. In view of the claim limitation of a computer system configured to provide personalized content over the telephone interface to a user in the corresponding voice character indicated in personalization profile not being shown or suggested in Smyk, in combination with the above arguments, Applicants respectfully submit that independent Claims 8 and 13 overcome the cited references and are therefore allowable over the combination of Wise, Eslambolchi and Smyk.

Therefore, Applicants respectfully submit the combination of Wise, Eslambolchi and Smyk also does not teach or suggest the additional claimed features of the present invention as recited in Claims 9-12 that are dependent on allowable base Claim 8. Applicants respectfully submit that Claims 9-12 overcome the rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a), as these claims are dependent on allowable base claims.

CONCLUSION

In light of the above remarks, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the rejected claims. Based on the arguments presented above, Applicants respectfully assert that Claims 1-13 overcome the rejections of record and, therefore, Applicants respectfully solicit allowance of these Claims.

The Examiner is invited to contact Applicants' undersigned representative if the Examiner believes such action would expedite resolution of the present Application.

Please charge our deposit account No. 23-0085 for any unpaid fees.

Respectfully submitted,

WAGNER, MURABITO & HAO L.L.P.

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Matthew J. Blecher
Registration No. 46,558

Two North Market Street
Third Floor
San Jose, CA 95113
(408) 938-9060

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VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

In the Specification:

Paragraph beginning at line 14 of page 14 has been amended as follows:

A user profile is a collection of information about a particular user. The user profile typically includes collections of different information as shown [and described more fully in connection with Figure 6]. Notably, the user profile contains a combination of explicitly made selections and implicitly made selections.

In the Claims:

Claim 2 has been amended as follows:

2. (Amended) The method of Claim 1, wherein the voice character comprises a dialect [of American English] selected from a set of dialects [including North Central, Inland North, Eastern New England, New York City, Philadelphia, Western New England, Southern, Southern Midland, Coastal Southeast, Northern Midland, Southern Midland, and Western].